

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 022079

44

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /014 R

DRAFTED BY AF/I:BDCURRAN:SJC

APPROVED BY AF/I:JWHITING

----- 081445

R 290204Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 022079

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, MOPS, AO, SF

SUBJECT:CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS: ISSUE NUMBER 4,
JANUARY 28, 1976

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AF CONTRIBUTION TO ISSUE NUMBER 4
OF CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR POST INFORMATION. FULL
TEXT OF CFR BEING POUCHED PER REGULAR SCHEDULES.

2. BEGIN QUOTE:

AF - THE ANGOLA SITUATION DETERIORATES (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE OUTLOOK FOR FNLA AND UNITA FORCES IN ANGOLA
IS BLEAKER THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST. WITHIN ANGOLA
THE FNLA FORCES IN THE NORTH HAVE BEEN ROUTED BY CUBAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 022079

AND MPLA TROOPS AND IN THE CENTER OF THE COUNTRY UNITA

IS FALLING BACK AS SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN. THE UNITA/FNLA REPORTEDLY HAVE MOVED THEIR POLITICAL "CAPITAL" FROM HUAMBO TO SILVA PORTO BECAUSE OF THE MILITARY THREAT.

ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA, SOME OF THE 22 AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WHICH OPPOSED OAU RECOGNITION OF THE SOVIET/CUBAN BACKED MPLA NOW APPEAR TO BE RECONSIDERING THEIR DECISION. TWENTY-THREE OAU STATES NOW RECOGNIZE THE MPLA.

IN THE UNITED STATES ON JANUARY 27 THE HOUSE, BY A VOTE OF 323 TO 99, JOINED THE SENATE IN OPPOSING US AID TO FNLA/UNITA. THE CONGRESS ADOPTED THE TUNNEY AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL, THEREBY ELIMINATING \$28 MILLION THE ADMINISTRATION HAD HOPED TO USE TO PROVIDE FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO THE FNLA AND UNITA.

-- MILITARY SITUATION. WHILE THE FNLA HAS BEEN ROUTED IN THE NORTH BY MPLA AND CUBAN TROOPS IT REMAINS IN POSSESSION OF TWO TOWNS IN THE NORTHERNMOST PART OF ANGOLA -- SANTO ANTONIO DO ZAIRE AND SAO SALVADOR. HOWEVER, A CONCERTED PUSH BY THE MPLA WITH CUBAN SUPPORT COULD QUICKLY PUT THE FNLA TO FLIGHT. MANY FNLA UNITS, AS WELL AS ZAIRIAN ARMY ELEMENTS THAT HAD BEEN FIGHTING IN ANGOLA, HAVE CROSSED THE FRONTIER INTO ZAIRE. ZAIRE HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION THAT IT IS PREPARED TO COMMIT ADDITIONAL MILITARY RESOURCES OF ITS OWN TO TRY TO SALVAGE THE FNLA POSITION.

-- IN THE CENTER OF THE COUNTRY, A LARGE SCALE MPLA/ CUBAN OFFENSIVE HAS BEGUN FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF MPLA/CUBAN TROOPS FROM THE NORTHERN FRONT. NOW THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS WITHDRAWN ITS TROOPS FROM COMBAT ROLES AND HAS MOVED THEM SOUTHWARD TO THE NAMIBIAN BORDER, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT UNITA CAN STAND AND FIGHT FOR LONG IN A CONVENTIONAL MILITARY STYLE. WHILE UNITA TROOPS HAVE IMPROVED MARKEDLY, THEY ARE NO MATCH FOR THE CUBANS AND HAVE NOTHING CAPABLE OF NEUTRALIZING THE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 022079

TRUCK-MOUNTED RUSSIAN 122MM "STALIN ORGANS" THAT THE CUBANS HAVE USED WITH DEVASTATING EFFECT.

-- SOUTH AFRICAN PULLBACK. SOUTH AFRICA'S DECISION TO PULL BACK PROBABLY STEMMED FROM SAG UNWILLINGNESS TO MOBILIZE ON THE SCALE THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONTAIN THE MPLA AND ITS ALLIES. IN ADDITION, THE SOUTH AFRICANS WERE NOT CONFIDENT THAT FNLA AND UNITA COULD

CONTINUE TO COOPERATE FOR MUCH LONGER -- UNITA DROVE
FNLA (CHIPENDA) FORCES OUT OF ALL MAJOR TOWNS IN THE
CENTER AND SOUTH OF THE COUNTRY AFTER A NUMBER OF FNLA
PROVOCATIONS. SHORTLY AFTER THE SAG ANNOUNCED ITS
DECISION TO WITHDRAW, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IMPLIED THAT
SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS WOULD REMAIN, HOWEVER, IN
SOUTHERN ANGOLA TO PROTECT TWO SOUTH AFRICAN-FINANCED
DAMS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND TO GUARD THE BORDER WITH
NAMIBIA. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE022079
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BDCURRAN:SJC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760034-0402
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976018/aaaaagum.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: URRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS: ISSUE NUMBER 4, JANUARY 28, 1976
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, AO, SF, FNLA, MPLA
To: BANGUI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006